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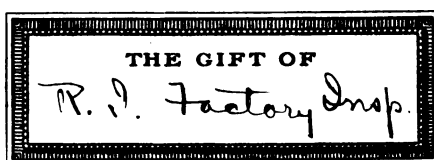
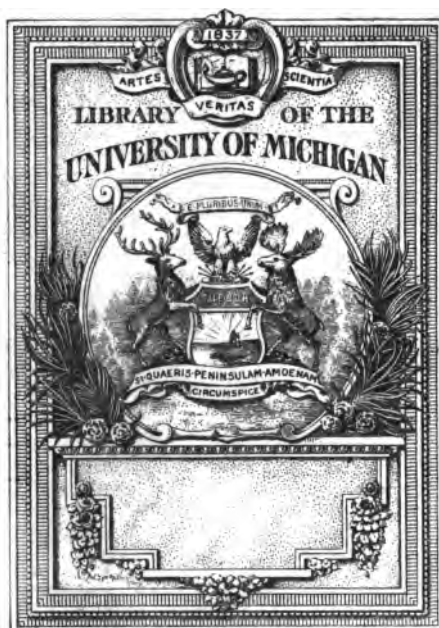
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State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF

*Rhode Island*

**FACTORY INSPECTION**

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*Compliments of*

*J. Ellery Hudson,*

*Chief Factory Inspector.*

J. ELLERY HUDSON, - - Chief Factory Inspector

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PROVIDENCE:

E. L. FREEMAN CO., STATE PRINTERS

1915



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

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*Rhode Island*

FACTORY INSPECTION

MADE TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AT ITS

JANUARY SESSION, 1915

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J. ELLERY HUDSON, - - Chief Factory Inspector

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PROVIDENCE:

E. L. FREEMAN CO., STATE PRINTERS

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**RHODE ISLAND FACTORY INSPECTION  
DEPARTMENT.**

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J. ELLERY HUDSON, - - - - - Chief Inspector.  
FRANK J. CLINTON, - - - Assistant Inspector.  
GEORGE W. RITCHIE, - - Assistant Inspector.  
WILFRID JARRET, - - - - Assistant Inspector.  
MINNIE H. SHIPPEE, - - - Assistant Inspector.



## LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

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OFFICE OF FACTORY INSPECTORS.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., January, 1915.

*To the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island:*

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 78 of the General Laws, I have the honor to submit to you this, the twenty-first annual report of the Factory Inspectors of this State, covering the inspection of factories, work-shops, mercantile establishments, bake-shops, ice cream and confectionery manufactories, etc., during the year ending December 31, 1914.

Respectfully submitted,

J. ELLERY HUDSON,

*Chief Factory Inspector.*



# REPORT

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The Chief Factory Inspector respectfully presents the following as the twenty-first annual report of the department:

There have been six thousand eight hundred and seventy-five (6,875) places inspected during the past year, divided as follows:

Bake-shops, stores, etc., employing less than five persons.	4,103
Establishments employing five or more persons. . . . .	2,772
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Total. . . . .	6,875

This is an increase of two hundred and ten (210) in the number of places employing less than five persons, and a decrease of twenty-four (24) in the number of places employing more than five persons.

The number of employees in the various establishments was divided as follows:

Males of sixteen years and over. . . . .	104,295
Females of sixteen years and over. . . . .	48,482
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Total adults. . . . .	152,777
Males under sixteen years of age. . . . .	2,627
Females under sixteen years of age. . . . .	2,823
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Total number of children. . . . .	5,450
Whole number employed. . . . .	158,227

The foregoing figures compared with those given in our last report show a decrease of eleven thousand two hundred and twenty-eight (11,228) in the number of adults employed; a decrease of five hundred and seventy-six (576) in the number of children employed; a total decrease of eleven thousand eight hundred and four (11,804) in the whole number employed. The percentage of child labor is 3.4. For the year 1913 it was 3.5.

The number of employees in the jewelry and silverware manufactories was divided as follows:

Males of sixteen years and over . . . . .	8,058
Females of sixteen years and over . . . . .	3,692
<hr/>	
Total adults . . . . .	11,750
Males under sixteen years of age . . . . .	168
Females under sixteen years of age . . . . .	80
<hr/>	
Total children . . . . .	248
Whole number of employees . . . . .	11,998

The number of employees in bake-shops, ice cream and confectionery manufactories, stores, etc., employing less than five persons was divided as follows:

Males of sixteen years and over . . . . .	5,410
Females of sixteen years and over . . . . .	2,349
<hr/>	
Total adults . . . . .	7,759
Males under sixteen years of age . . . . .	60
Females under sixteen years of age . . . . .	10
<hr/>	
Total children . . . . .	70
Total employed . . . . .	7,829

The following table shows the number of men, women, boys and girls employed in the State, and also the percentage of child labor by counties, cities and towns:

THE STATE, COUNTIES, CITIES AND TOWNS.	ADULTS.			CHILDREN.			Total em- ployed.	Percentage of children.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
THE STATE.....	104,295	48,482	152,777	2,627	2,823	5,450	158,227	3.4
PROVIDENCE COUNTY.....	86,680	40,316	126,996	2,140	2,425	4,565	131,561	3.47
Burrillville.....	2,017	976	2,993	65	60	125	3,118	4.
Central Falls.....	1,876	1,649	3,525	44	138	182	3,707	4.9
Cranston.....	2,558	310	2,868	25	15	40	2,908	1.4
Cumberland.....	2,987	1,732	4,719	119	166	285	5,004	5.7
East Providence.....	2,118	393	2,511	28	35	63	2,574	2.45
Foster.....	9	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	9	.....
Glocester.....	27	11	38	1	.....	1	39	2.56
Johnston.....	377	516	893	46	61	107	1,000	10.7
Lincoln.....	2,299	699	2,998	43	29	72	3,070	2.3
North Providence.....	1,266	634	1,900	81	98	179	2,079	8.6
North Smithfield.....	729	390	1,119	32	21	53	1,172	4.5
Pawtucket.....	12,150	7,524	19,674	508	535	1,043	20,717	5.
Providence.....	48,395	20,663	69,058	813	805	1,618	70,676	2.29
Scituate.....	368	187	575	17	9	26	601	4.3
Smithfield.....	692	425	1,117	21	30	51	1,168	4.36
Woonsocket.....	8,792	4,207	12,999	297	423	720	13,719	5.2
BRISTOL COUNTY.....	3,563	1,746	5,309	113	99	212	5,521	3.8
Barrington.....	431	42	473	5	2	7	480	1.46
Bristol.....	1,943	1,037	2,980	62	59	121	3,101	3.9
Warren.....	1,189	667	1,856	46	38	84	1,940	4.3
KENT COUNTY.....	6,527	3,235	9,762	239	224	463	10,225	4.5
Coventry.....	1,164	645	1,809	37	36	73	1,882	3.88
East Greenwich.....	424	192	616	15	9	24	640	3.75
Warwick.....	1,154	500	1,654	36	30	66	1,720	3.8
West Warwick.....	3,785	1,898	5,683	151	149	300	5,983	5.
NEWPORT COUNTY.....	3,539	1,650	5,189	77	43	120	5,309	2.26
Jamestown.....	65	50	115	.....	.....	.....	115	.....
Little Compton.....	44	23	67	1	.....	1	68	.14
Middletown.....	158	3	161	.....	.....	.....	161	.....
Newport.....	2,492	903	3,395	34	.....	34	3,429	1.
New Shoreham.....	228	275	503	.....	.....	.....	503	.....
Portsmouth.....	40	22	62	.....	.....	.....	62	.....
Tiverton.....	512	374	886	42	43	85	971	8.75
WASHINGTON COUNTY.....	3,986	1,535	5,521	58	32	90	5,611	1.6
Charlestown.....	20	15	35	.....	.....	.....	35	.....
Exeter.....	7	7	14	.....	.....	.....	14	.....
Hopkinton.....	272	113	385	2	.....	2	387	.5
Narragansett.....	489	193	682	1	.....	1	683	.15
North Kingstown.....	416	188	604	17	18	35	639	5.48
Richmond.....	292	102	394	5	6	11	405	2.7
South Kingstown.....	621	273	894	19	3	22	916	2.4
Westerly.....	1,869	644	2,513	14	5	19	2,532	.75

The following table shows the increase or decrease in the number of adults and children employed in the different counties, cities and towns:

THE STATE, COUNTIES, CITIES. AND TOWNS.	ADULTS.		CHILDREN.		TOTAL EMPLOYED.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
THE STATE.....		11,228		576		11,804
PROVIDENCE COUNTY.....		11,027		564		11,591
Burrillville.....	122		4		126	
Central Falls.....		351		42		393
Cranston.....	451			7	444	
Cumberland.....		180		3		183
East Providence.....		240		8		248
Foster.....	9				9	
Glocester.....	6			1	5	
Johnston.....		83	20		5	
Lincoln.....		268		30		298
North Providence.....		25	54		29	
North Smithfield.....		8		1		9
Pawtucket.....		1,167		80		1,247
Providence.....		7,900		442		8,342
Scituate.....		98	1			97
Smithfield.....	7		3		10	
Woonsocket.....		1,322		32		1,354
BRISTOL COUNTY.....		147		65		212
Barrington.....	33				33	
Bristol.....	113			19	94	
Warren.....		293		46		339
KENT COUNTY.....	151		57		208	
Coventry.....		30		11		41
East Greenwich.....	11		12		23	
Warwick.....		5,513		244		5,757
West Warwick.....	5,683		300		5,983	
NEWPORT COUNTY.....		182	5			177
Jamestown.....		32				32
Little Compton.....		11				11
Middletown.....	1				1	
Newport.....		41		7		48
New Shoreham.....		54				54
Portsmouth.....	23				23	
Tiverton.....		68	12			56
WASHINGTON COUNTY.....		23		9		32
Charlestown.....		6				6
Exeter.....						
Hopkinton.....	58		2		60	
Narragansett.....		106		5		111
North Kingstown.....		22	17			5
Richmond.....	95			7	88	
South Kingstown.....	205		6		211	
Westerly.....		247		22		269

The following table shows the number of men, women, boys, and girls employed in the textile industries of the State by counties, cities and towns:

THE STATE, COUNTIES CITIES, AND TOWNS.	Men.	Women.	Boys. under 16.	Girls. under 16.
THE STATE.....	36,172	27,905	1,825	2,208
PROVIDENCE COUNTY.....	27,623	22,904	1,399	1,803
Burrillville.....	1,908	946	65	60
Central Falls.....	899	1,147	28	78
Cranston.....	481	157	8	15
Cumberland.....	2,346	1,566	96	155
East Providence.....	523	107	18	14
Glocester.....	16	5	1	.....
Johnston.....	320	488	45	61
Lincoln.....	2,092	669	43	28
North Providence.....	1,200	469	36	28
North Smithfield.....	702	387	23	15
Pawtucket.....	5,201	6,084	419	511
Providence.....	6,796	6,656	320	482
Scituate.....	236	162	17	9
Smithfield.....	646	418	20	20
Woonsocket.....	4,257	3,643	260	327
BRISTOL COUNTY.....	1,337	925	102	107
Barrington.....	238	33	5	2
Bristol.....	203	270	44	45
Warren.....	896	622	53	60
KENT COUNTY.....	5,054	2,917	232	223
Coventry.....	1,019	612	35	36
East Greenwich.....	207	151	13	9
Warwick.....	684	370	35	30
West Warwick.....	3,144	1,784	149	148
NEWPORT COUNTY.....	424	350	42	43
Tiverton.....	424	350	42	43
WASHINGTON COUNTY.....	1,734	809	50	32
Exeter.....	7	7	.....	.....
Hopkinton.....	225	107	2	.....
North Kingstown.....	277	154	17	18
Richmond.....	271	97	5	6
South Kingstown.....	444	230	19	3
Westerly.....	510	214	7	5

The foregoing table comprises the reports from establishments engaged in the manufacture and finishing of cotton and woolen cloths and yarns, silk goods, thread, tapes, braids and twines. The number of employees in these industries was divided as follows:

Males of sixteen years and over.....	36,172
Females of sixteen years and over.....	27,905
<hr/>	
Total adults.....	64,077
Males under sixteen years of age.....	1,825
Females under sixteen years of age.....	2,208
<hr/>	
Total children.....	4,033
Whole number employed in textile industries.....	68,110

Compared with the figures given in last year's report the foregoing show a decrease of eight hundred and fourteen (814) in the number of adults employed; a decrease of ninety-eight (98) in the number of children employed; a total decrease of nine hundred and twelve (912) in the whole number employed in the textile industries. The percentage of child labor in these industries is 5.9. In 1913 it was 6.



The following table gives a summary of the statistics of the reports of this department for the years that the factory inspection law has been in force:

YEAR.	Number of places visited.	Number of adults employed.	Number of children employed.	Total number employed	Percentage of children.
1894.....	294	55,109	5,217	60,326	8.5
1895.....	293	53,523	4,473	57,996	7.7
1896.....	379	50,068	4,065	54,133	7.5
1897.....	355	56,072	4,786	60,858	7.9
1898.....	433	63,259	4,539	67,798	6.5
1899.....	549	72,296	4,666	76,962	6.0
1900.....	595	76,552	5,253	81,805	6.4
1901.....	617	81,496	5,068	86,564	5.8
1902.....	628	86,043	5,477	91,520	6.0
1903.....	644	90,165	6,451	96,616	6.7
1904.....	653	88,545	5,895	94,444	6.2
1905.....	1,508	112,377	6,917	119,249	5.8
1906.....	1,742	123,112	6,932	130,044	5.3
1907.....	1,899	131,059	6,150	137,209	4.5
1908.....	1,913	122,060	4,924	126,984	3.9
1909.....	1,973	135,947	5,531	141,478	3.9
1910.....	6,225	151,199	5,699	156,898	3.6
1911.....	6,430	156,808	5,699	162,507	3.5
1912.....	6,520	161,585	5,761	167,346	3.4
1913.....	6,689	164,005	6,026	170,031	3.5
1914.....	6,875	152,777	5,450	158,227	3.4

#### RECOMMENDATION.

I again, and for the fourth time, urge upon you the necessity of providing adequate means of egress from factories and work-shops in case of fire. This is a question that cannot, with credit to the State, be continually evaded. In again pressing its claim for your attention I know of no better language to use than that contained in my first recommendation on this subject, viz.:

“The question of providing adequate and safe means of egress from factories and workshops in case of fire is a matter of great importance and one that should receive immediate and conscientious attention. The army of wage-earners are practically powerless to exercise their own volition as to the character, regarding safety, of the building in which they shall pursue their labors. It is the duty of the State to see to it that the lives of these workers are protected in every possible way against danger by fire. The use of the best means that engineering knowledge and skill have devised for such protection should be demanded. This is not done. It is true the various factories and workshop buildings throughout the State have been generously equipped with outside fire escapes, but this protection is far from being the best. I have seen, during the winter months, these fire escapes so loaded with ice as to render them absolutely impassable. If a fire should break out at such a time great loss of life might result. The fact that for many years we have been spared the experience of a serious fire with loss of life is not a guarantee of immunity. The danger exists, but the adequacy of the precautions we are at present taking against it is not on a par with our knowledge and ability to secure. The same danger is to be feared in school houses, theatres, halls and other public buildings.”

#### PROSECUTIONS.

During the year three cases have been brought before the Sixth District Court. They included one for violation of the fifty-four hour law; one for employing a child under fourteen years of age, and one for employing a child under sixteen years of age after 8 o'clock P. M. They were all sustained.

#### BAKE-SHOPS, ICE CREAM AND CONFECTIONERY MANUFACTORIES.

There are in force at the present time three hundred and eleven (311) bake-shop certificates, an increase of twenty over the number in force last year. There are also in force one hundred and seventy-

five (175) certificates for ice cream manufactories, and eighty-three (83) for confectionery manufactories, making the combined number of certificates in force five hundred and sixty-nine (569), an increase of twenty-six. The general condition of these branches of business continues to improve and fewer warning notices have been found necessary during the past year.

#### ACCIDENTS.

Three hundred and seventeen (317) accidents were reported during the year, including two deaths. The deaths reported were as follows:

January 15, 1914. Hugh J. Riley, employed as engineer at the Leicester Knitting Mill, Woonsocket, was caught between the fly wheel and main belt while asleep on the floor back of the engine.

February 16, 1914. Daniel Sullivan, aged 17 years, employed by the International Braid Co., at the Sprague Street plant, Providence, fell in elevator well. The boy was first missed on Monday, February 16, and it was thought he had gone home. Elevator on which he carried his bobbins was found locked at fifth floor. He did not show up for work on Tuesday morning, February 17, and later it was discovered that his overcoat was still at the mill. An investigation was started and his body was found at the bottom of the elevator well.

Respectfully submitted,

J. ELLERY HUDSON,

*Chief Factory Inspector.*

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NOTE. The detailed tabulated statements of the factories inspected are omitted from this printed report by order of the Commission on State Printing, but are on file for inspection in the offices of the Secretary of State and of the Factory Inspectors.

APR 2 1915





